

# CDF NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



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**RELEASE**  
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## **Fire Season Declared in Most of the State**

### **CDF Increases State of Readiness for Wildfires**

**Sacramento-** Most units of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) will be on fire season status as of Monday, June 2, 2003. With the exception of those units in the far north portion of the state, CDF will complete hiring and training seasonal firefighters, begin staffing all facilities 24 hours per day, increase dispatch levels and generally gear up for an increased readiness to battle wildfires this year.

“Late Spring rains allowed us to delay the start of fire season this year,” said CDF Chief of Fire Protection, Jim Wright. “However, the grass is now drying and we are starting to see an increase in fire activity in many parts of the state.”

“Fire season” means that CDF increases preparedness levels, but it can mean restrictions for citizens as well. Some jurisdictions may suspend burn permits and campfire permits and/or restrict activities in areas of high fire threat. Hikers, campers and anyone planning to burn debris should check with local authorities to make sure their planned activity is allowed.

CDF firefighters remind homeowners to create a defensible space around their property so that it can be protected from wildfire. For guidance on making a home defensible, consult the CDF website at [www.fire.ca.gov](http://www.fire.ca.gov).

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